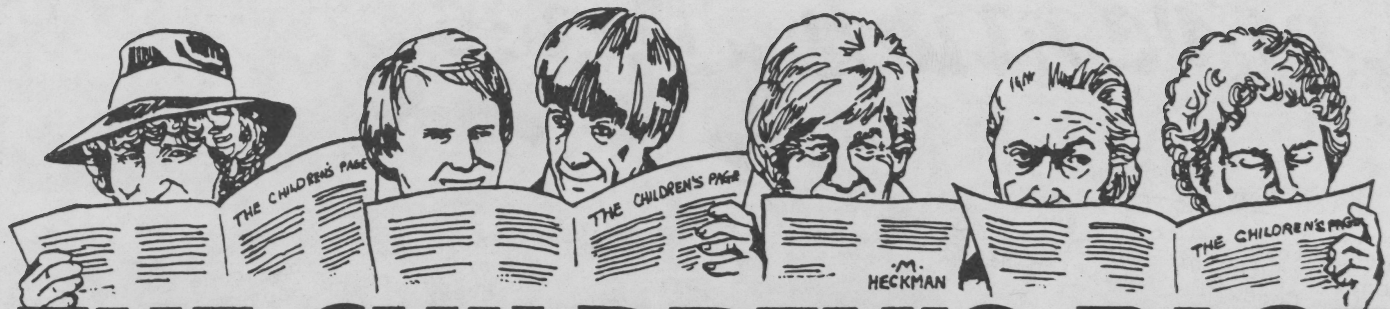


THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

The Newsletter of The UnEarthly Children

Volume 2 Issue 7 July 1986

"Tell me, Doctor, what does all this mean?"

SUMMER CELEBRATION

OKAY, THIS IS REALLY IT! The last change, I promise! The absolute, definite, no-modification-possible information on the Birthday Party is as follows:

1.) It is now being called the Summer Celebration. Seeing as how our birthday is really in April, and last year's party was in May, and this one is in July, calling it a birthday party is stretching credibility a bit too thin.

2.) It is going to be held as stated on Sunday, July 27, from 11am to 6pm. The new site is Burholme Park, on Cottman Avenue in the Great Northeast. If you know how to find the Northeast Library (where our meetings are held), from there just keep going west almost to Montgomery County. If you don't know where the Library is, look at a map. If you can't read a map or find one, call Cecily at 215-355-3992. This new location should be a lot more convenient for a lot more members, so now there's no excuse for not attending. An important reason to attend is that THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN AUGUST, so don't miss the only UEC party of the summer.

3.) There will not, repeat not, be any admission charge. We did well enough on the Doctor Who Tour to be able not only to do this for you for free, but also to provide a simple lunch. Exactly what that will be is currently unsettled; we are trying to arrange a vendor to supply hot dogs, soda, and other goodies. If the vendor falls through, we will provide sandwiches and soda. In either case, the voucher enclosed in the newsletter is required to obtain the freebies, so remember to bring it along. Only members of the UnEarthly Children are eligible for the free lunch. We ask that people contribute salads, munchies, desserts to round things out. You are welcome to cook out, but you'll have to bring your own equipment. The park has picnic tables, but no grills.

4.) As this park has no electricity, there will be no videos, but you've already seen everything anyway, right? We will spend the day picnicking and playing games--NJ-DE vs PA softball game (and/or cricket, depending on equipment), a Doctor Who Trivial Pursuit Competition, a costume parade with prizes, filksong/skit presentation, and whatever else we can think of. If you have volleyball or croquet stuff, please volunteer their use. We could also use some gamesmasters. This is a comparatively simple party, but there is still a lot of work involved, both in planning and in organizing the day's activities. Please let the High Council know if you would like to help or have a skit to present or will be bringing stuff of any kind, so a modicum of order can be maintained. Finally, if you have any questions about any of this, please call Cecily and ask.

Convention Dates

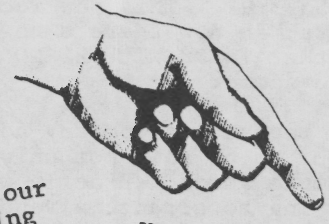
Creation Convention, July 19-20, Philadelphia Centre Hotel, Doctor Who guest will be Sarah Sutton (Nyssa); other guests will be Mark Lenard (Sarek of Star Trek), John Romits, and Archie Goodwin. Admission $10/day for adults, $5 for kids.

TardisCon 86, August 1-3, Adam's Mark Hotel in St Louis, MO. Guests are Nicola Bryant, Frazier Hines, Ian Marter, Mark Strickson, and Sarah Sutton. $36 for 3 days. If you are thinking of going and want more info, call Cecily. (An interesting note on this con--the local clubs have all received a sleazy anonymous letter postmarked Denver and suggesting that Tardiscon has been cancelled due to competition from Spirit of Light, TardisCon has obviously not been cancelled, and it appears that this letter is a poor attempt to discredit the major national convention organizers. It's sad but true that there are people in the Doctor Who scene who would stoop to such tactics.

Creation Conventions changing scene to the Hyatt Regency, New Brunswick on September 20 & 21. Tentative Who guest is Matthew Waterhouse (Adric) with Mark Lenard scheduled to represent Star Trek. Other news as received.

JON PERTWEE TOUR presented by MASTER PRODUCTIONS in association with ETTINGER BROTHERS, October 18, 1986 at the War Memorial Auditorium in Trenton, NJ, This con features videos, autographs, talk sessions PLUS Jon Pertwee's renowned Cabaret Act. Tickets $10 in advance, $12 at the door. Write to Master Production, sending a self addressed, stamped envelope for full details of this and other dates and conventions. Oh, yes, the best news is No Extra Charge for the Cabaret Show.

UEC News



THANK YOU to Margaret Heckman for designing our new masthead. We are looking forward to seeing more of Margaret's talented work in the future.

PLEASE NOTE: This is also your newsletter and your contributions in the form of art work or written copy are welcome.

WANT AD: Brand new button maker seeks snappy sayings related to Doctor Who to be used to generate club revenue at conventions. Sorry, no royalties will be given. However, one free button will be given to every suggestion used. In case of tie, first one received wins.

RESIGNATIONS: Ted Slampyak and Michael Cohen have decided for personal reasons that they can no longer continue as members of the High Council. We thank them for their contributions to the club in the past and wish them all the best.

VOLUNTEERS: The next Creation Convention in Philadelphia will be held July 19 and 20, and we will be working. We need 7 people to man tables and guard doors. If you would like to help out, call Cecily at 215-355-3992.

VOLUNTEERS AGAIN: Since there won't be a meeting in August, the WHYY pledge drive could be the only Who activity for the month. Lets have a good turnout. We are booked for Saturday, August 16(the opening day), and need at least 20 people. To volunteer a couple of hours to a worthy cause, meet other club members, and to have a good time, too, talk to Cecily.

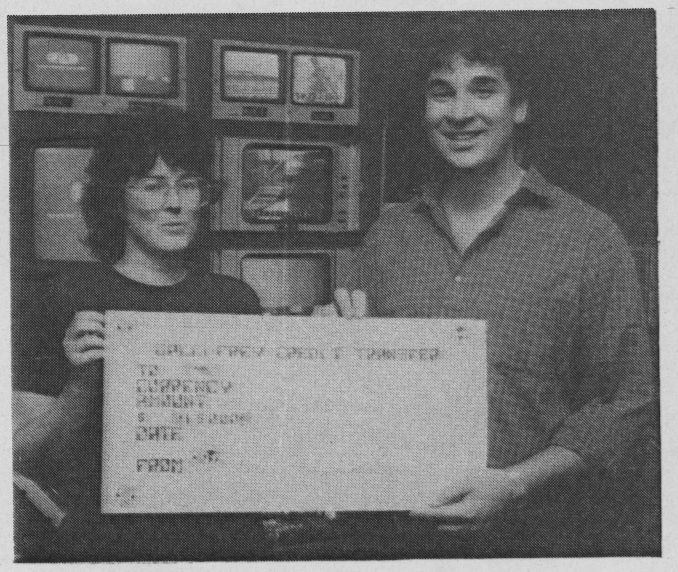
CLUB BY LAWS: A first draft of the club by-laws is being reviewed by the by-laws committee. The proposed by-laws will then be published in the August newsletter for consideration and decision by you, the members. More information will be available at that time.

THANK YOU

NEW JERSEY NETWORK

One of the conditions connected with the UnEarthly Children's sponsorship of the **Doctor Who USA Tour** was that a portion of the proceeds goes to benefit PBS. So why did we decide to contribute to New Jersey Network instead of our local station, WHYY? I'm glad you asked that question.

Although a relative latecomer to the Doctor Who scene (it started in 1983 with Tom Baker's stories), NJN has been an enthusiastic supporter of the show. For example, the network was one of the first markets in the country to obtain the rights to both the oldest and newest stories; and **Eric Luskin**, a familiar face at certain times of year, has produced three specials about Doctor Who--"Doctor Who's Who's Who", "Doctors Who Old and New", and "Friends and Foes", at least one of which has been picked up by PBS for nationwide broadcast. NJN camera crews can sometimes be seen at local conventions, capturing on film the happy insanity of Doctor Who fans. The DWFCA convention in Trenton this March is a case in point, where NJN was actually a co-presenter. Even the pledge breaks are interesting, what with the interviews and promo spots from visiting stars. And, most recently, after WHYY declined to be associated with the Doctor Who USA Tour, and the UnEarthly Children stepped in to bring the tour to the Philadelphia area, NJN was most happy to include a mention of the tour site in Pennsylvania along with the promotions it was doing for itself. Doctor Who fans have a good friend in NJN, and we are delighted to show our support. I wish the same could be said of all PBS stations. Now, about that commercial in the middle...



Cecily Chambers presents **Eric Luskin** with a large check, designed by **Ken Horan**

SUPPORT PBS

It's been a while since we urged our members to support PBS, but we cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of our contributions. We in the Delaware Valley are blessed with a number of stations carrying our favorite show, in all its 23-year glory. Sometimes we tend to forget that large sections of the country are not so lucky. But it is up to us, the viewers, to keep the show on the air. Unless you want to join the ranks of fans with no Doctor, send in your pledges now, and be sure to indicate that the pledge is for "Doctor Who". Don't let the Doctor down!

Tribute
Robert Holmes

? - 1986

For the 2nd Doctor:	The Krotons
	The Space Pirates
For the 3rd Doctor:	Spearhead from Space
	Terror of the Autons
	Carnival of Monsters
	The Time Warrior
For the 4th Doctor:	The Ark in Space
	Pyramids of Mars
	The Deadly Assassin
	The Talons of Weng-Chiang
	The Sunmakers
	The Ribos Operation
For the 5th Doctor:	The Caves of Androzani
For the 6th Doctor:	The Two Doctors
	"Mysterious Planet"

It is impossible to overestimate Robert Holmes' importance to Doctor Who. No other writer is responsible for so many unforgettable stories or created so many classic monsters--Autons, Sontarans, Sutekh, Androgums, the Master. Holmes also invented some wonderfully comedic figures in Milo Clancey, Vorg and Shirna, Henry Gordon Jago, Garron, Shockeye. His concept of life on Gallifrey is central to the Doctor Who mythos. His range was immense, from horror to satire to science fiction. His own preference was for humor, yet many of his tales were denounced by television reformers as too disturbing for children. As script writer, he formed an unbeatable team with producer Phillip Hinchcliffe and Tom Baker as the Doctor. It is a measure of his power that he was commissioned to write the first story for the critical 23rd season; it is devoutly to be hoped that the rest of the season will meet his standard and be a fitting tribute to his memory

Request for BioData

BioData Extracts. If you are interested in serving time on the High Council, now is the time to get those BioData Extracts out of the Matrix and polish them up. We need a brief statement of how good you are and why you deserve to be a High Councillor. The statements, if selected for nomination, will be published in the August newsletter, with the election at the September meeting. There are four seats up for grabs, so this could be a lively campaign.

Letter from Wil

We have already received his.

Congratulations! That's the first word you will hear if you succeed in being elected. Enjoy it, savor it, and treasure it forever because it only lasts for that fleeting instant in which it is spoken.

Not very long after you hear that word, you will begin to mutter four others to yourself over and over again. "Is it worth it?' This is the question which you must ask yourself now and in the future and to which you must honestly be able to say "Yes".

Being a High Councillor can be very rewarding in many aspects, none of which is material, and very few of which are even tangible.

True, you do get to meet a lot of very interesting people (many of whom will become instant friends), and you also get to find out what's going on before a lot of others, but the price that you pay is very high.

The UnEarthly Children is a non-profit organization run by a volunteer High Council and its business (yes, that's right, business) is conducted by majority vote of the High Council.

I wish that I could say running a fan club was not a business, but trying to meet the wants and needs of the membership requires dealing with people in a real world environment.

Fan clubs are supposed to be for fun for their members to belong to, but when you get more than ten or fifteen members, that fun doesn't always happen on its own. It takes a lot of advance planning and work to make it happen. So once you get on the High Council, you take a step away from being a fan and a step toward the business of fandom.

If you have ideas or policies which you would like to see implemented, be prepared to back them up with details and facts and figures, and to answer some very tough questions in order to convince at least two other High Councillors that your idea or policy is worth adopting.

Being a volunteer High Councillor also means that you will be re-imbursed for very little of what you actually expend in the performance of your duties.. Because of limited funding and the desire to keep club liabilities as low as possible, it has been the policy to only re-imburse for actual commissioned expenses. These do not include telephone bills, travel expenses or other "small cost" items.

When you accept your High Council seat, you will take on many responsibilites and be accountable to many people for your actions. Remember, you cant get without giving. Being an official of any large organization such as the UnEarthly Children, requires that you set aside most of your individual rights as a member for the benefit of the club as a whole.

So, if you are willing to give of yourself and are able to make sacrifices and still say that it is worth it, a seat on the High Council is the vehicle for channelling your time and energy into keeping the UnEarthly Children the best run and most enjoyable fan club in the country

A TRUE STORY.....

The beginning of this tale takes place on a cold, brisk, sunny day in February of 1985. The principal characters were standing in a very long line waiting to enter the Sheraton Convention Center in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The convention, presented by The Doctor Who Fan Club of America, (DWFCA) featured the new Doctor, Colin Baker, and the Producer, John Nathan Turner. This was their first appearance in this area and all in the line were eagerly looking forward to the events of the day.

Cast of Characters:

Meg and Dorrie Sillman from Bucks County, PA
New members of UEC, old members of DWFCA

Lucille Martucci and sons Steven and Anthony from Bethlehem, PA
Attending their first Doctor Who con ever

John Bollinger nad his good friend Bill Burnsworth form the Harrisburg, PA area
Also attending their first con and had arrived thinking they were the only fans in Cantral Pennsylvania

Dorrie and Meg were old hands at standing in line, having survived many of the Creation cons in Philly. Meg had a traumatic experience when she went to the DWFCA con that brought Jon Pertwee and Liz Sladen to Philadelphia. She was in the last group to be admitted before they shut the doors and turned away many others who wanted to attend. They have gone early ever since.

Lucille was standing there knitting a Tom Baker scarf she had just started and Dorrie, who had already completed two. began to chat about the trials and errors of locating the exact colors and what they really are supposed to be. We were all impressed with John who was holding a video camera and ventured to inquire if he were with a TV station. John, in the meantime had been trying not to stare at all the WHO buttons Meg was wearing, He had never heard of such things. Most of his knowledge(and love) for WHO was derived from books he had located at his local Walden book store plus dimly remembered airings of the program shown on his PBS station several years ago. Just think of the horror of it all...NO WHO AT ALL! He had joined DWFCA after reading about them in a book and they notified him of this con with a post card.

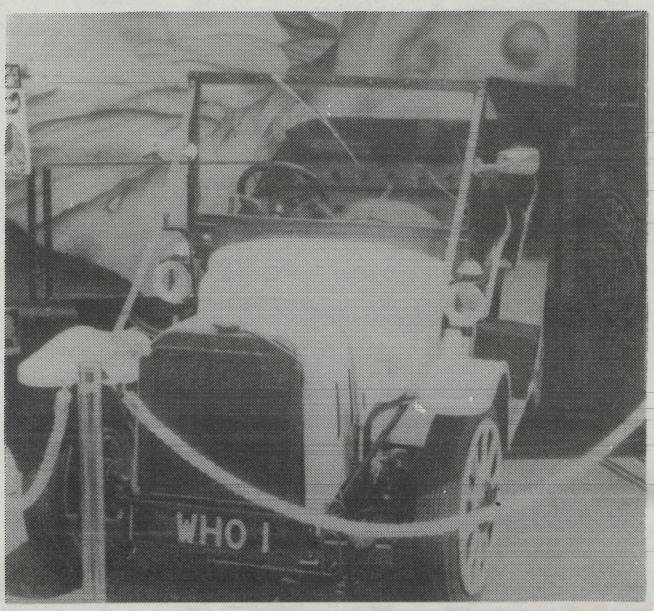
We all had a great hour(yes, we were in line for an hour)chatting about our WHO experiences. We exchanged addresses that day. John offered to send us copies of the tape he hoped to make of the con and the rest of us offered to lend John our personal tapes of the show so he could see some of the stories he had read. John joined all the fan clubs he could find so he could receive lots of newsletters to get all the WHO news.

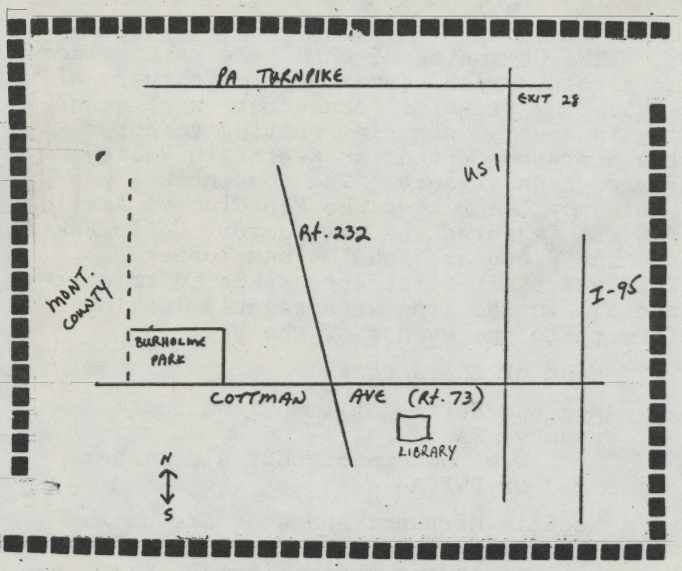
In the months to follow, Lucille recruited us to help with the Channel 39 fund raisers on behalf of Doctor Who and we met at all the Creations cons in Philly. Dorrie and Meg began to volunteer with UEC activities and Dorrie went on to become treasurer in the club. Lucille became deeply involved with the formation of Tardis Tours, the new club in the Bethlehem-Allentown area and John fulfilled his dream and organized Two Hearts Ltd. in the Harrisburg area. Now John and Bill have found close to a hundred others fans in Central Pennsylvania. By the way, their PBS station began the show with the Tom Baker programs last October.

Tardis Tours and Two Hearts Ltd. have been accepted into the North East Matrix which assisted them in their start up activities. Some days we cannot believe how involved we all have become in WHO activities; nor how little we knew way back then standing in that line.

It would take a whole newsletter just to list all the names of all the good friends we have made since that historic day and perhaps a whole book to tell of all the good times and adventures we have had. This story has an especially happy ending. Meg met David Kienzle at a Channel 12 fund raiser and they have become engaged to be married next April. An added dimension to this WHO tale involves their trip to pick out the engagement ring. Dave was wearing his famous WHO sweater(which is another long story altogether and you will have to ask his sister Phyllis to tell you that one) and thus discovered the jeweler was also a fan of the Doctor. After learning the story of how they met, he is now telling other customers all about it.

THE MORAL OF THIS STORY...in case you have missed it...get involved with your fan club...wear your WHO shirts...talk to others while standing in line...get there early!.. There are LOTS AND LOTS of new friends waiting to be found and adventures to be enjoyed...and oh yes, THANK THE DOCTOR!





MAP TO THE PICNIC PLACE...EASILY REACHED BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER MODES OF TRAVEL!

The Children's Page

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THE CHILDREN'S PAGE is the official monthly newsletter of The UnEarthly Children. Dues to the UEC are $6 to join, $5 to renew. Meetings are held monthly.

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215-357-7245

PHOTO CREDITS

page 3 : Courtesy of New Jersey Network

pages 4,5,6 : Courtesy of Dave Kienzle taken at the Doctor Who, USA Tour Trailer

UNEARTHLY CHILDREN

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